

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 RSC-01

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 L-02 H-01

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R 191849Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5302

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 30558

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, FR

SUBJECT: US-EC CONSULTATIONS - GENERAL

REF: STATE 274569

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1. IN CONTINUING PROCESS OF U.S. CONSULTATIONS WITH

FRENCH EC PRESIDENCY, POLCOUNSELOR MET WITH DE MARGERIE (QUAI DIRECTOR FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS) DECEMBER 18 FOR DISCUSSIONS BASED ON REFTEL. DETAILS ON PORTUGAL, CYPRUS AND EC SUMMIT REPORTED SEPTELS. POL COUNSELOR ALSO GAVE DE MARGERIE INFORMAL PAPER BASED ON PARA 4 REFTEL. DE MARGERIE SAID HE WOULD TRANSMIT TO OTHER EC MEMBERS ALL POINTS U.S. HAD PROVIDED IN THIS MEETING.

2. COMMENT: IN COURSE OF OUR CONVERSATION DE MARGERIE POSED SEVERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING PORTUGAL AND CYPRUS, AS REPORTED IN SEPTELS. WE RECOMMEND THAT EMBASSY BE PROVIDED RESPONSES TO THESE QUESTIONS. THIS EXCHANGE AND THE EARLIER ONE WITH DE MARGERIE (PARIS 29125) DEMONSTRATE THAT THE US-EC PRESIDENCY CHANNEL FOR POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS CAN BE MADE TO WORK. WHILE WE HAVE MADE ONLY A MODEST BEGINNING, WE HOPE THAT THE PARIS EXPERIENCE WILL ENCOURAGE WASHINGTON TO CONTINUE THIS PRACTICE WITH THE IRISH EC PRESIDENCY IN THE NEW YEAR -- PERHAPS BROADENING THE SUBSTANCE AND QUICKENING THE PACE. WE BELIEVE THE REASONS THAT PERSUADED US TO TEST FRENCH WILLINGNESS TO MAKE THE GYMnich FORMULA WORK (PARIS 23152) ARE VALID TO THE IRISH PRESIDENCY AS WELL. MOREOVER, WE SUSPECT THAT THE FEARS OF THE SMALLER EC STATES (E.G. COPENHAGEN 3545) MAY BE SOMEWHAT ATTENUATED BY A DETERMINED U.S. EFFORT TO ENRICH THE CONSULTATIVE HABIT BETWEEN THE US AND A SMALLER EC STATE AS EC PRESIDENT.

3. AS FRANCE'S TERM AS EC PRESIDENT DRAWS TO ITS END, WE WANT TO THANK THOSE IN THE DEPARTMENT WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED SO MUCH TO PROVIDING US WITH TIMELY SUBSTANTIVE GUIDANCE TO MAKE US-EC POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS A SUCCESS. THIS EVIDENCE OF US INTEREST IN EUROPE HAS NOT BEEN LOST ON THE FRENCH

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